

Appl. No. 10/050,476

Restrict Resp. dated November 4, 2004

Reply to Office Action of October 4, 2004

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action dated October 4, 2004, regarding the above-referenced patent application. The application is currently under a restriction requirement.

In the Office Action, the Examiner asserted that the application contains claims directed to distinct inventions, wherein claims 1-26 are drawn to an apparatus, and claims 27-32 are drawn to a method of making a catheter shaft. An election to examine a single invention was requested by the Examiner. Additionally, the Examiner instructed Applicants to elect a single species from the identified species A through species K to be prosecuted. The Examiner asserts no claim is currently generic. Applicants respectfully traverse this restriction requirement with respect to the Examiner's assertion that no claim is generic. Applicants assert that at least claims 1 and 16 are currently generic to all species identified by the Examiner.

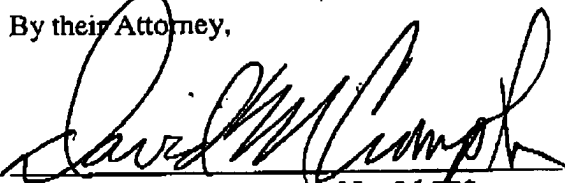
Adhering to the requirement of 37 C.F.R. §1.143 that a complete reply requires a provisional election, Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Invention I, species F, corresponding to claims 1-26.

Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is requested. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at (612) 677-9050.

Respectfully submitted,

Lixiao Wang et al.

By their Attorney,

Date: 11/4/04

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